

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 03098 250420Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 /098 W
-----033572 251332Z /45

R 250312Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5581
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3098

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: JA, UR, PEPR
SUBJECT: JAPANESE REACTION TO SOVIET PUBLICATION OF GOOD
NEIGHBOR TREATY

REF: TOKYO 2958

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET PUBLICATION FEBRUARY 23 OF TEXT OF
PROPOSED JAPAN-SOVIET GOOD NEIGHBOR TREATY DREW EXTENSIVE AND
GENERALLY CRITICAL PRESS COVERAGE AND RELAXED GOJ RESPONSE.
END SUMMARY.

2. SOVIET PUBLICATION IN IZVESTIA FEBRUARY 23 OF FULL TEXT
OF MOSCOW-PROPOSED JAPAN-SOVIET GOOD NEIGHBOR TREATY WAS GIVEN
FRONT PAGE HEADLINE TREATMENT IN TOKYO PRESS AND WAS GENERALLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 03098 250420Z

SEEN BY PRESS AS YET ANOTHER SOVIET EFFORT SOMEHOW TO PREVENT
EARLY CONCLUSION OF A JAPAN-CHINA PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY.

3. SPEAKING TO PRESS, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY ABE AND
FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA SAID THAT SINCE DRAFT WAS ONLY AN
INTERNAL SOVIET DOCUMENT (NOT HAVING BEEN OFFICIALLY RECEIVED
BY GOJ), MOSCOW WAS FREE TO DO WITH IT AS IT WISHED. THEY

WENT ON TO REAFFIRM JAPANESE POSITION OF "NEVER CON-
CLUDING ANY TREATY TO AFFECT FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
JAPAN AND SOVIET UNION AS LONG AS REVERSION OF FOUR NORTHERN
ISLANDS AND SUBSEQUENT CONCLUSION OF PEACE TREATY REMAIN
SHELVED." SONODA REPORTEDLY ALSO TOLD PRESS THAT SOVIET
EFFORTS FO PAST SEVERAL DAYS WOULD HAVE NO EFFWCT WHATEVER
ON GOJ APPROACH TOWARD QUESTION OF PFT WITH CHINA.

4. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF FEBRUARY 24, 1ST EAST EUROPE
DIVDIR TOGO SAID HE THOUGHT PUBLICATION OF TEXT REFLECTED
SOVIET FRUSTRATION WITH INABILITY TO IMPEDE WHAT SOVIETS
BELIEVED TO BE STEADY PROGRESS ON JAPAN-CHINA FRONT, AS WELL AS
IRRITATION AT TOTAL LACK OF RESPONSE TO POLYANSKIY
REPRESENTATIONS TO ABE AND FUKUDA AND DELIVERY OF BREZHNEV
LETTER. TOGO THOUGHT THAT, IN FACE OF PERCEIVED GOJ "INTRAN-
SIGENCE", SOVIETS HAD DECIDED TO APPEAL OVER HEADS OF LEADER-
SHIP TO JAPANESE PEOPLE IN EFFORT TO "POPULARIZE" GOOD
NEIGHBOR TREATY. SOVIET OBJECTIVE WAS TO BUILD RECORD NOW
WHICH COULD BE USED LATER, AFTER CONCLUSION OF JAPAN-
CHINA PFT, IN RENEWED EFFORT TO DRAW JAPAN INTO TREATY WHILE
AVOIDING TERRITORIAL ISSUE.

5. COMMENT: TOGO BELIEVED, AND WE AGREE, THAT SOVIETS BADLY
MISCALCULATED EFFECT OF THEIR ACTION ON JAPANESE PRESS AND
PUBLIC OPINION. INSTEAD OF TREATING IT AS REASONABLE SOVIET
OVERTURE, TOKYO PRESS (PROBABLY RELYING HEAVILY ON FONOFF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TOKYO 03098 250420Z

BACKGROUNDING) SAW IN TREATY SOVIET EFFORT NOT ONLY TO PREVENT
CONCLUSION OF PFT WITH CHINA, BUT TO UNDERMINE US-JAPAN
RELATIONS. PUBLICATION OF TEXT DID LITTLE TO BURNISH SOVIET
POPULAR IMAGE HERE, AND IN FACT ONLY REINFORCED IMPRESSION OF
SOVIETS AS PUGNACIOUS AND NOT VERY MANNERLY IN THEIR DEALINGS
WITH JAPAN. WE SHARE TOGO'S OBSERVATION THAT SOVIETS ENDED
WEEK WITHOUT MUCH TO SHOW FOR THEIR EFFORTS.
MANSFIELD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLICATIONS, AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO03098
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780088-0141
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780212/aaaaajpw.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4ae421cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TOKYO 2958
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3472157
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE REACTION TO SOVIET PUBLICATION OF GOOD NEIGHBOR TREATY
TAGS: PEPR, JA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4ae421cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014